House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 20 public bills, H.R. 5885–5910; and 13 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 332–335; and H. Res. 1146–1159 were introduced.

Pages H2758–59

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages H2759-61

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows: H.R. 906, to promote and coordinate global change research, with an amendment (H. Rept. 110–605, Pt. 1);

H.R. 5720, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide assistance for housing, with an amendment (H. Rept. 110–606); and

H.R. 5749, to provide for a program of emergency unemployment compensation, with an amendment (H. Rept. 110–607). Page H2758

Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the guest Chaplain, Chaplain Paul L. Sherouse, Wing Chaplain, Andrews Air Force Base, Air Force District of Washington. Page H2661

Amending Public Law 110–196 to provide for a temporary extension of programs authorized by the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 beyond April 25, 2008: The House agreed by unanimous consent to S. 2903, to amend Public Law 110–196 to provide for a temporary extension of programs authorized by the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 beyond April 25, 2008—clearing the measure for the President.

Pages H2720-21

Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2007: The House passed H.R. 2830, to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal year 2008, by a recorded vote of 395 ayes to 7 noes, Roll No. 223.

Pages H2663-66, H2666-2720, S2721-36

Rejected the Chabot motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a recorded vote of 195 ayes to 208 noes, Roll No. 222.

Pages H2733-35

Pursuant to the rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute printed in part A of H. Rept. 110–604 shall be considered as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule, in lieu of the amendments in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, Homeland Security, and the Judiciary now printed in the bill.

Pages H2677-H2720, H2721-33

Accepted:

Oberstar manager's amendment (No. 1 printed in part B of H. Rept. 110-604) that increases FY08 funding to the Coast Guard to \$8.4 billion; increases the authorized number of Coast Guard personnel by 1,500 members, to 47,000; increases maritime security response teams; mandates protection and enforcement of security zones encompassing all Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) areas by the Coast Guard; requires certification that the Coast Guard has adequate resources to provide such protection; directs the Department of Homeland Security to provide an analysis of the threat and consequences of a terrorist attack on gasoline and chemical shipments and report the findings to Congress; establishes an Assistant Commandant for Port and Waterways Security responsible for overseeing all regulations dealing with security in ports and waterways; eliminates Lead System Integrators for the Deepwater Program, establishing instead a civilian Chief Acquisitions Officer reporting directly to the Coast Guard Commandant; increases safety requirements on commercial fishing vessels and mandates training for operators; requires lower emissions of sulfur oxide and nitrogen oxide so that ships meet EPA standards and the U.S. complies with an international maritime pollution convention; requires double hulls on ships carrying more than 600 cubic meters of oil; requires ships to begin installing ballast water treatment systems to protect against the introduction of invasive species into ports and waterways; considers all Coast Guard vessels homeported in Guam as ineligible to receive repairs at foreign shipyards; requires the Coast Guard Academy to establish a policy on sexual harassment; authorizes the Coast Guard to issue regulations requiring licensed pilots to carry portable electronic devices for navigation; and requires the EPA to study the underground petroleum spill on the Brooklyn shoreline; Pages H2713-14

LaTourette amendment (No. 2 printed in part B of H. Rept. 110–604) that amends section 720 of the substitute (regarding waterside security around liquified natural gas tankers and terminals) to state that the Coast Guard may consider security assets and personnel provided by state and local officials contracted or otherwise made available to an LNG terminal operator in determining whether security resources are available to carry out necessary waterside security measures;

Pages H2714–15

Matsui amendment (No. 3 printed in part B of H. Rept. 110–604) that requires the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating to maintain on an Internet site a numerical accounting

of missing persons and alleged crimes committed on cruise ships. The database would be updated quarterly and aggregated by cruise line. The amendment would require cruise lines to include a link to this database on their public websites;

Pages H2715–17

Bilirakis amendment (No. 6 printed in part B of H. Rept. 110–604) that strikes section 708 of the substitute amendment (maritime biometric identification) and replaces it with a requirement that the Commandant of the Coast Guard, within one year of enactment, conduct a program for the mobile biometric identification of suspected individuals, including terrorists, to enhance border security. It requires a cost analysis of expanding these capabilities to other Coast Guard and DHS vessels. The analysis may include a plan to give priority to vessels and units more likely to encounter those suspected of making illegal border crossings through the maritime environment;

Markey amendment (No. 7 printed in part B of H. Rept. 110–604) that directs the Secretary of Homeland Security to notify the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) of any determination by the Secretary that a proposed waterside liquefied natural gas (LNG) facility is suitable or unsuitable for the marine traffic associated with the LNG facility. Within 90 days of such notification, FERC must respond to the Secretary's determination with what action the Commission has taken regarding a proposal to construct and operate a waterside LNG;

Pages H2721–22

Zoe Lofgren (CA) amendment (No. 8 printed in part B of H. Rept. 110–604) that allows the Secretary of Homeland Security to use a secondary authentication system for individuals applying for transportation security cards when fingerprints are not able to be taken or read to enhance transportation security;

Pages H2722–23

Bishop (NY) amendment (No. 9 printed in part B of H. Rept. 110–604) that requires the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating to study, within 180 days of enactment, the role of state and local law enforcement in augmenting Coast Guard resources by enforcing Coast Guard-imposed security zones around vessels transiting to, through, or from U.S. ports and conducting port security patrols;

Pages H2723–25

Cuellar amendment (No. 11 printed in part B of H. Rept. 110–604) that directs the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating, within 90 days of enactment, to conduct a mission requirement analysis for the navigable portions of the Rio Grande River, Texas, international water boundary. The analysis would identify what re-

sources would be needed to further the Coast Guard's mission along the Rio Grande River;

Pages H2727-28

Kirk amendment (No. 12 printed in part B of H. Rept. 110–604) that includes vessels that operate exclusively in the Great Lakes ecosystem among vessels that would be required to have a ballast water treatment system, at the request of the Secretary of Agriculture;

Pages H2728–29

Jackson-Lee (TX) amendment (No. 14 printed in part B of H. Rept. 110–604) that directs the Secretary of Homeland Security to assess, within 30 days of enactment, the enrollment sites for transportation security cards, including the feasibility of keeping them open for longer durations and the quality of their customer service and application processing times;

Pages H2729–30

Stupak amendment (No. 15 printed in part B of H. Rept. 110–604) that permits the Commandant of the Coast Guard to convey, without consideration, the Coast Guard Station Marquette and Lighthouse Point in Marquette County, Michigan, to the City of Marquette, Michigan. The conveyance could not occur until the Coast Guard has relocated to a newly constructed station, any environmental remediation required under federal law has been completed, and the Commandant of the Coast Guard determines that retention of the lighthouse is not needed for Coast Guard missions;

Poe amendment (No. 4 printed in part B of H. Rept. 110–604) that states the findings of Congress that stateless submersible or semi-submersible vessels on international voyages are a serious international problem, facilitate international crimes, and are a threat to the safety and security of the United States. The amendment makes it a federal criminal offense subject to fines, imprisonment, or both for the operation and embarkation of any stateless submersible or semi-submersible vessel (by a recorded vote of 408 ayes to 1 no, Roll No. 220); and

Pages H2717-18, H2732-33

McNerney amendment (No. 5 printed in part B of H. Rept. 110–604) that states that the marine safety provisions of the bill shall not impair the legal authority of the Coast Guard to carry out its homeland security mission, including protecting ports and waterways, stopping human smuggling, and preventing terrorist organizations from attacking the United States (by a recorded vote of 408 ayes with none voting "no", Roll No. 221).

Pages H2718-19, S2733

Withdrawn:

Broun (GA) amendment (No. 10 printed in part B of H. Rept. 110–604) that was offered and subsequently withdrawn that would have struck title X

(appeals to national transportation safety board) and title XI (marine safety) from the bill. Pages H2725-27

Agreed that the Clerk be authorized to make technical and conforming changes to reflect the actions of the House.

Page H2736

H. Res. 1126, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to on Wednesday, April 23rd.

Providing for a recess of the House for a joint meeting to receive His Excellency Bertie Ahern, Prime Minister of Ireland: Agreed by unanimous consent that it may be in order at any time on Wednesday, April 30, 2008, for the Speaker to declare a recess, subject to the call of the Chair, for the purpose of receiving in joint meeting His Excellency Bertie Ahern, Prime Minister of Ireland. Page H2737

Meeting Hour: Agreed that when the House adjourns on Friday, April 25th, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 29th, for morning hour debate.

Page H2737

Calendar Wednesday: Agreed to dispense with the Calendar Wednesday business of Wednesday, April 30th.

Page H2737

Privileged Resolution: The House agreed to H. Res. 1148, providing additional amounts for the expenses of the select committee established under House Resolution 611.

Page H2737

Commission on Wartime Contracting—Appointment: Read a letter from Representative Boehner, Minority Leader, in which he appointed Mr. Dean G. Popps of Virginia to the Commission on Wartime Contracting.

Pages H2751–52

Senate Messages: Messages received from the Senate today appear on pages H2661, 2666, and H2748.

Senate Referrals: S. Con. Res. 77 was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary and S. 2324 and S. 1315 were held at the desk.

Page H2756

Quorum Calls—Votes: Four recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on Pages H2732–33, H2733, H2735, and H2735–36. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10:00 a.m. and adjourned at 6:21 p.m.

Committee Meetings

BIOLOGICAL COUNTERMEASURES AND THREATS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense held a hearing on Biological Countermeasures and Threats. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: Darrell Galloway, Director, Joint Science and Technology Office, Defense Threat Reduction Agency; MG Stephen

Reeves, USA. Joint Program Executive Officer for Chemical and Biological Defense; Tony Tether, Director, Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency; and Michael Kilpatrick, M.D., Deputy Director, Force Health Protection and Readiness Program, Office of the Assistant Secretary, Health Affairs; and Robin Robinson, Director, Biomedical Advanced Research Development Authority, Office of the Assistant Secretary, Preparedness and Response, Department of Health and Human Services.

SOCIAL SCIENCE'S NATIONAL SECURITY ROLE

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Terrorism, Unconventional Threats and Capabilities, and the Subcommittee on Research and Science Education of the Committee on Science held a joint hearing on the role of the social and behavioral sciences in national security. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: COL Martin Schweitzer, USA, Commander, 4th Brigade, 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg; and Andre van Tilborg, Deputy Under Secretary (Science and Technology); Mark Weiss, Director, Division of Behavioral and Cognitive Sciences, Directorate for Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences, NSF and a public witness.

CHILD ABUSE; TEEN RESIDENTIAL PROGRAMS DECEPTION

Committee on Education and Labor: Held a hearing on Child Abuse and Deceptive Marketing by Residential Programs for Teens. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the GAO: Kay Brown, Director, Workforce and Income Security; and Greg Kutz, Managing Director, Forensic Audits and Special Investigations; and public witnesses.

FDA GLOBALIZATION ACT/FOOD—COSMETIC PROGRAMS

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing on the Food and Drug Administration Globalization Act, food provisions. Testimony was heard from Stephen Sundlof, D.V.M., Director, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, FDA, Department of Health and Human Services; and public witnesses.

ECONOMIC/HOUSING RESCUE MEASURES

Committee on Financial Services: Began markup of the following bills: H.R. 5830, FHA Housing Stabilization and Homeownership Retention Act of 2008; H.R. 5829, Public Housing Asset Management Improvement Act of 2008.

Will continue April 30.